Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for negating or reducing decrease in blood flow in an abdominal organ which would otherwise have decreased oxygen delivery because of decreased blood-flow therein because of being contacted with insufflating gas, wherein the insufflating gas is selected from carbon dioxide, helium, argon or nitrogen, comprising delivering a therapeutically effective amount of a blood-flow to abdominal organ decrease preventing agent to the abdominal cavity and contacting said abdominal organ with said ~~a blood-flow to abdominal organ decrease preventing~~ agent ~~in a therapeutically effective amount~~, wherein said agent is selected from ethyl nitrite, methyl nitrite, tert-butyl nitrite, isoamyl nitrite, CF_3NO, CF_3SNO, CH_3SNO, CH_2=CHSNO, CH_2=$CHCH_2SNO$, $ONSCH_2$-CH_2-CH_2SNO or $CH_3CH_2CH_2SNO$.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 where ~~the step of contacting said abdominal organ with a blood-flow to abdominal organ decrease preventing agent in a therapeutically effective amount comprises delivering the blood-flow to abdominal organ decrease preventing~~ said agent is delivered to the abdominal cavity as part of a gas consisting essentially of ~~the blood-flow to abdominal organ decrease preventing~~ a therapeutically effective amount of said agent ~~in therapeutically effective amount~~ and ~~an~~ said insufflating gas.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2 where the insufflating gas is carbon dioxide.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3 where the blood-flow to abdominal organ decrease preventing agent is ethyl nitrite.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4 where the gas contains from 1 to 1,000 ppm ethyl nitrite.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5 where the gas contains from 50 to 200 ppm ethyl nitrite.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1 where the amount of blood-flow to abdominal organ decrease preventing agent is effective to relieve hypoxemia.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 where the blood-flow to abdominal organ decrease preventing agent is administered as a ~~nebulized~~ dry powder or as a solution.

9-12. (canceled)

13. (New) The method of claim 1 where negating or reducing decrease in blood flow in an abdominal organ treats a complication of laparoscopic surgery or diagnosis.

14. (New) The method of claim 2, where the pressure in the abdominal cavity following administration of the gas does not exceed 15 mm Hg.

15. (New) The method of claim 2, where the gas can be administered using a CO_2 insufflator.

16. (New) The method of claim 8 where said dry powder or solution is topically applied to or nebulized on an abdominal organ.